

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently amended) A set of purified peptides comprising peptide products resulting from the degradation of elastin by the enzyme matrix metalloproteinase 12 (MMP12), wherein the set of peptides comprises at least twenty ~~of the different~~ peptides, and each of the twenty different peptides has a different peptide mass selected from the list identified in Table 2.
2. (Canceled).
3. (Currently amended) The set of purified peptides ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 which comprises at least ninety ~~of the different~~ peptides, wherein each of the ninety different peptides has a different peptide mass selected from the list identified in Table 2.
4. (Currently amended) The set of purified peptides ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 which comprises at least one hundred and fifty ~~of the different~~ peptides, wherein each of the one hundred and fifty different peptides has a different peptide mass selected from the list identified in Table 2.
5. (Currently amended) A set of purified peptides comprising purified peptide products resulting from the degradation of elastin by the enzyme matrix metalloproteinase 12 (MMP12), wherein the set of peptides comprises ~~all the~~ at least ninety-seven different peptides, and each of the ninety-seven different peptides has a different peptide mass selected from the list identified in Table 1.
6. (Currently amended) The set of purified peptides ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1 which comprises ~~all the~~ at least one hundred and eighty-seven different peptides, and each of the one hundred and eighty-seven different peptides has a different peptide mass selected from the list identified in Table 2.